

What is claimed is:

1. A substantially purified factor H-related protein 5, comprising a primary amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- a) SEQ ID NO: 2;
- 5      b) an amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 2;

2. A substantially purified factor H-related protein 5 fragment, comprising a fragment of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein said fragment binds to complement component C3b and that when associated with activated complement is recognized by monoclonal  
10      antibody K2.254.

3. A substantially isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- a) a nucleic acid sequence that encodes SEQ ID NO: 2;
- b) a nucleic acid sequence that encodes an amino acid sequence having at least  
15      90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 2;
- c) a nucleic acid sequence that encodes a fragment of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein said fragment binds to complement component C3b and that when associated with activated complement is recognized by monoclonal antibody K2.254.;
- d) SEQ ID NO: 1 or the complement thereof;
- 20      e) SEQ ID NO: 3 or the complement thereof;
- f) a nucleic acid sequence that hybridizes to the nucleic acid sequence of a) under wash conditions of 0.1X SSPE, 0.1% SDS at 42°C and encodes a protein that binds to complement component C3b and when associated with activated complement is recognized by monoclonal antibody K2.254;
- 25      g) a nucleic acid sequence of at least 20 nucleotides that hybridizes to the nucleic acid sequence of a) under wash conditions of 0.1X SSPE, 0.1% SDS at 42°C;
- h) a nucleic acid sequence that hybridizes to the nucleic acid sequence of b) under wash conditions of 0.1X SSPE, 0.1% SDS at 42°C and encodes a protein that binds to complement component C3b and when associated with activated complement is recognized by monoclonal antibody K2.254; and  
30      i) a nucleic acid sequence of at least 20 nucleotides that hybridizes to the nucleic acid sequence of b) under wash conditions of 0.1X SSPE, 0.1% SDS at 42°C.

4. A recombinant vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 3.
5. The recombinant vector of claim 4, wherein said vector is a cloning vector.
6. The recombinant vector of claim 4, wherein said vector is an expression vector.
7. An expression cassette comprising a promoter, the polynucleotide of claim 3, and a transcription termination sequence.
8. A host cell comprising the vector of claim 4.
9. The host cell of claim 8, wherein said host cell is selected from the group consisting of bacterial cells, bacteriophage, yeast cells, insect cells, plant cells, and animal cells.
10. A host cell comprising the expression cassette of claim 7.
11. The host cell of claim 10, wherein said host cell is selected from the group consisting of bacterial cells, yeast cells, insect cells, plant cells, and animal cells.
12. An antibody that binds specifically binds to the factor H-related protein 5 of claim 1 and which is not monoclonal antibody K2.254.
13. The antibody of claim 12, wherein said antibody is a polyclonal antibody.
14. The antibody of claim 12, wherein said antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
15. The antibody of claim 12, wherein said antibody is a recombinant antibody.
16. The antibody of claim 15, wherein said antibody is a chimeric antibody.
17. The antibody of claim 16, wherein said antibody is a humanized antibody.
18. The antibody of claim 12, wherein said antibody is an immunologically active antibody fragment.

19. The antibody of claim 12, wherein said antibody binds to factor H-related protein 5 when factor H-related protein 5 is associated with activated complement.

20. An antibody that specifically binds to the factor H-related protein 5 fragment of claim 2' and which is not monoclonal antibody K2.254.

21. The antibody of claim 20, wherein said antibody is a polyclonal antibody.

22. The antibody of claim 20, wherein said antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

23. The antibody of claim 20, wherein said antibody is a recombinant antibody.

24. The antibody of claim 23, wherein said antibody is a chimeric antibody.

25. The antibody of claim 24, wherein said antibody is a humanized antibody.

26. The antibody of claim 20, wherein said antibody is an immunologically active antibody fragment.

27. The antibody of claim 12, wherein said antibody binds to factor said H-related protein 5 fragment when said factor H-related protein 5 fragment is associated with activated complement.

28. The antibody of claim 20, wherein said antibody binds to factor said H-related protein 5 fragment when said factor H-related protein 5 fragment is associated with activated complement.

29. A method for the detection of C5b-9 complement complexes comprising contacting a cell or tissue with the antibody of claim 12 and detecting the binding of the antibody to the cell or tissue.

30. A method for the detection of C5b-9 complement complexes comprising contacting a cell or tissue with the antibody of claim 20' and detecting the binding of the antibody to the cell or tissue.